HOW THE GARY SCHOOL SYSTEM WORKS IN GARY

Florence Patton Writes of Day Spent in Model Educational Institutions.

WORK ALL PLAY FOR PUPILS

Family Spirit Is the Strong Feature of the System-Teacher Is Like Mother of Flock-Grown-Ups Attend Night Schools.

By FLORENCE PATTON. Chicago .- A day in the Gary (Ind.) schools and a half hour with William A. Wirt, educational wizard, has just been my privilege.

The day began at eight and ended at five, the regular school period of a Gary child, and I came away filled with an almost reverent admiration for this quiet, simple man of accomplishment. I could understand why his revolution of Gary schools had urged his name for superintendent of Chicago schools to succeed Mrs. Young, and why New York city begged his advice to the tune of \$10,000, recently.

Standing in the warm family atmos phere of this Gary model place, I know that I had hated the stereotyped school day; the stiff standing shoulder to shoulder in line to march to class; the everlasting sameness of that morning assembly; the clang of the bell; the depression of that watch upon whispering-I always did have so much to say to Mary or Sadie or Rose-; the "sit up children-straight"-(it was so comfy to lounge a bit-1 could think better) and all the rest of it that still endures and irks a child unmerci-

How can the grade teacher with her smattering of information expect to tutor, who, through specializing, is resourceful?

It isn't the grade teacher who is to blame. It's the system.

It came over me so suddenly, so re Gary, said he was ready for a talk.

"What is it? What is it about this place that fits one like a rocking chair, made to order?" I wanted to know. And the quiet answer came pat; "It's the family spirit."

No Overworked Children.

I mentioned the long period from eight until five o'clock. Let nobody imagine there are overworked children in the Gary schools. Primarily, the extra myself. The teacher has a skunk two hours from three to five, are there, deodorized, and in process of For the model of the Gary schools meant to keep the boy and girl out of taming. She claims that skunks are consists of opportunity, extravagant the street. It is a crime, according fast displacing the Angora cat as a pet. to Mr. Wirt, to let those two hours be wasted, when they can be put in with interesting play in the school.

For there is no work in the Gary schools. It is all play, meant to be so. And by the appearance of the children, you know this to be so. The Emerson, like the bigger Froebel school, accommodates the high school pupils. the grade children and the kindergartens, all at the same time. Again it is the family idea. The younger ones have constantly before them the example of the older children.

For instance, a kindergarten room may be placed next to the botany room or the physics laboratory. How the big eyes stare into those more dignifled quarters, how the little imaginations plan to reach there some day! And I saw a high school pupil racing along a corridor with a little tad in tow, when classes changed one hour.

As to changing there is not set orier, no rule, no stiff lining up. In class and out, pupils are not subjected to the constant "Sh!" admonishment. The teacher is more like the mother of the flock or the big sister, and down in the shops the boys appear to be working with father. It is just because there are no set, prisonlike rules, that there is no noise and no disorder.

Some Group Always Playing. And some group is playing all of the time. There are about five acres of playground about the school and a wading pool and garden for the spring and summer. And the auditorium, gymnasiums and swimming pool are seldom empty. Some group is always playing. When one of three groups returns for arithmetic or drawing, another group goes out to romp or to music in the auditorium or down to the city market. And things are so arranged that, if the parents of a child so desire, a play hour may be put in at the family church for religious instruction. The churches have co-operated with Mr. Wirt in this.

Peeping into the class rooms I saw arithmetic pupils sitting about as they pleased, whispering if they chose, haniling objects freely. In the shops, in most cases, presided over by a union man by the way, nobody appeared to be instructed by the instructor alone. A boy appeared to be learning forge work, for instance, as well by consulting with a more advanced student, as from the teacher.

in drawing class, seventh graders were lined up at easels with fourth and offered him a \$1 bill and a margraders and one high school boy was riage license. The marriage was a working there with charcoal. This feature of a dollar-day sale held by lowhole room by the way, had been cal merchants. painted by the painting boys, had been stenctled and filled in by others; a would marry all couples for \$1.

WINTER QUARTERS IN THE DOLOMITES



Severe winter has already set in on the Dolomite Alps, and the Austrian and Italian warriors are fighting in the snow, and probably will be for the next five months. The photograph shows the snow-covered dug-outs of Austrian troops in one of the passes.

boards and cases, were made by the imperfect equipment. boys. A boy working in the shop gets his time card and is paid 60 cents an hour. At the end of the week, he is school bank and when he has saved \$80 he has made a credit toward gradu-

Aloof Dignity of a Teller.

I went into the bank, which is run a boy of about sixteen, showed me around. He had all the aloof dignity of the teller. He unbent a bit to tell me things, but when I inadvertently dollars or fifteen dollars he froze again. I could monkey in the zoology class, it appeared, but not in the bank.

By the way, there is a real zoo at the school, the tenderer members are Cy De Vry of the Lincoln park zoo, compete in interesting a child, with the Chicago, has sent them a pair of hawks and there are foxes and coyotes and thorough, introspective, intuitive and hens and pheasants and groundhogs, and was sent away. None of the animals shows the slightest animosity tofreshingly in the Emerson trip, that animals have been trained to an un I confess I was rattled when William derstanding of each other. The boys A. Wirt, superintendent of schools of may go into the foxes' cage and pet

them and the coyotes yowl jealously. "We teach no sex hygiene here," said the zoology teacher, "but in our a guinea pig and the birth of baby rab mills people when they assayed the bits, and so forth, are taken quite as

a matter of course." the zoo, the inner one particularly, ers and equipped his playground, and, where I became an interested pupil barring the elderly aspect of the place, they are more playful than kittens.

WILL NURSE LEPERS

Miss Mary Chemielewska, a beautiful

New York girl, has entered a convent

at Syracuse, N. Y., for instruction in

nursing. She intends to go to Ha-

waiian islands to nurse and care for

the lepers on the desolate Molokal is-

land, the settlement made famous by

Bargain Marriage Day.

Massillon.-Peter Zorger, seventy,

of this city, a Civil war veteran, and

Miss Verdi Kittinger, twenty-seven, or

West Brookfield, appeared at the office

Father Damien.

window that offended by its stark ob- | them. Thus their interest is stimuong, had been changed to stained glass lated by the expression of a mind and its casing was made in the shops. skilled in one especial subject, instead At the Froebel school by the way, of dulled by the smattering out-andall the tables and chairs, the cup- out driedness of the grade teacher's

Grown-Ups Attend School.

The question of lighting reminds me of the evening classes. It is estigiven a check which he deposits in the mated that some 10,000 people are instructed daily in Gary, for the schools are open to men and women until nine at night, for any line of work they choose to follow. In the art craft room I saw some of the silver work of by the pupils and one of the clerks, a woman who intends making use of the teaching for a livelihood.

This interest of the parents is one of the particularly wise points in the wise administration of Mr. Wirt. In a wondered whether I could borrow ten mill city such as Gary the children frequently are taken out of school at fourteen and put to work.

Getting the parents to come to school is stimulating their interest in keeping the children there. And as inside and the tougher ones outside. far as the children's volition is concerned, they are not dashing for the school exit by any means.

The Emerson school has about 800 pupils. With its careful scattering of and there was a bear. But he sickened | class work and play time it could accommodate more. The Froebel has 1,900 day pupils and more than that at ward the children. Both pupils and night. I saw a girl in the cobbler's shop there mending her shoe under the amused eyes of her instructor.

"She wanted to know how," said the cobbler teacher, "and so I let her. Lots of the girls come to class here."

I went to the Jefferson school, too, classes the approaching motherhood of the first school put up by the steel sand waste and named it Gary. Mr. Wirt speedily made an attic into a I'd like to have lingered longer in gymnasium, put in his special teachit is as model as any.

opportunity for work and those who have tried them say made into play. And the running costs no more than in any other city, pro-Every teacher in the Gary schools is portionately, while the "attractions" a specialist. Classes visit her room are far ahead in number and in the for what she can particularly give method in which they are presented.

SOLDIERS NOISY DREAMERS

Fight Battles in Sleep, Say Fearsome London Landladies of Lodging Houses.

London.-Landladies of lodging houses near by the railroad terminals such as Victoria and Waterloo are becoming diffident about taking in soldiers just back from the front, particularly those who have participated in the recent fighting around Loos.

The landladies say the poor soldiers fight the terrible-battle over again in their sleep and the shricks and hysteria are enough to shake the strongest nerves.

Many of the men who took part in the engagement are afflicted with the most terrible of dreams and somnambulistically slash and kill the Huns to the terror of all the other lodgers.

Figures are unobtainable, but the the last few weeks have reached a high figure

Even officers have been affected, and men who have stood up under the strain since the early days of the war say that the sights during the recent offensive are too terrible for mention.

Joseph Chamberlain's Son Takes Only Half of \$5,000 as Executive of Birmingham.

London.-Bent on showing their willingness to do their share in practicing national economy several of the mayors of provincial English cities have consented to a substantial reduction in their salaries. Neville Chamberlain, son of Joseph Chamberlain, in the recent elections was made lord mayor of Birmingham, with a salary of \$2,-500, instead of the usual \$5,000.

Dr. Charles O'Brien Harding, mayor of Eastbourne, has accepted a salary of \$950, instead of \$1,500.

Sells Bible Printed in 1754. Evansville, Ind.-Forced through inancial difficulties to part with her of Justice of the Peace C. H. Wiseman most cherished treasure, Mrs. Jacob Kohl of No. 902 Blankenberg street, sold an old Bible to Mayor Benjamin Boosse. The Bible was published in 1754. It is a Martin Lu-Justice Wiseman had announced he ther translation and is yellow with



VALUE OF GOOD FEATHERING

improves Appearance of Turkeys, At tracts Patrons and Is Good Advertising Feature.

Good feathering, though not for a moment to be regarded with turkeys as equal in importance to vigor and hardness, is valuable for three reasons -first, because it improves the appearance of the flock, attracting patrons and not infrequently proving a good advertising feature; second, beause conformity to the best show-



A Bronze Turkey.

room standards makes possible on many occasions exceedingly profitable side-sales of eggs and breeding stock; third, because there is no better guide to the best breeding than the limits of a standard variety, so that one avoids the dangers of mongrel blood by striving to develop the very highest type of turkeys within the confines of the one breed.

Ranking the desirable characteristics of the best turkeys in the order of their importance might give a sequence something like this: Hardiness, vigor, immunity from disease, quickness of growth, alertness and intelligence, bone and frame, shape, size, feathering and tameness. Several of these qualities are more or less interdependent, but the list gives about the right impression. Turkey stock that is prolific is also to be desired, but this quality is so closely allied to those first mentioned that it hardly requires a separate listing.

TO INSURE GOOD EGG YIELD

Nothing of Greater Importance Than Green Feed of Some Kind-Hens Relish Alfalfa.

Necessary as meat feeding is to insure a good egg yield, it is no more important than feeding some kind of green feed For this nothing is better than cabbage, small enough to be eaten by the hen in one day. This should be hung up where the birds can peck at it without jumping up.

Mangels or beets cut open and placed on nails will usually be eaten greedily. Onions may be cut up and fed about twice a week, though they should not be given for a day or two before the birds are to be killed for eating, on account of the disagreeable flavor produced in the meat.

Hens, though having a variety of grains and a proper amount of meat, will, if deprived of green food, fall off in their egg yield. Cabbage or lettuce leaves thrown loose on the feeding floor will largely be wasted, as the birds have difficulty in tearing the pieces apart. Potatoes are good poultry food, but should be cooked, as if cases of nervous breakdowns during given raw they often cause digestive disturbances. If fed in excess they are found to be too fattening.

Cut clover and alfalfa, if steamed are not only green feeds, but are highly nitrogenous, but they will not altogether take the place of vegeta-

MAYORS CUT THEIR SALARIES START IN POULTRY BUSINESS

Beginner Should Profit by Experience of Those Ahead of Him-Hen Must Be Cared For.

The man who goes into the poultry husiness should profit by all that has been learned by those who were in the business ahead of him, and should not try to fight it out stong the same lines that were adopted by his predecessors years ago.

Eggs, like plants and animals, are not made out of nothing. The hen is a machine for making eggs. If the machine is a good one, cared for and properly fed, eggs may be produced in abundance at all seasons of the year.

Keeping Profitable Fowls.

After a bird has its growth it is not profitable to keep it longer, but the turkey and the goose grow for some time, and the flesh of a turkey is really better a year old than it is six months old. Still the market demand is for young stock. And the market demand is the demand to be

WATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

President Wilson's Old Typewriter Cannot Spell

WASHINGTON.-When President WWixlson wriets a mexsagXe to congRezs it looks something like thiZ?s* In addition to which the machine's alphabet is badly chewed as to legs and shoulders. The space bar



is the only valuable attachment it has.

suffers from intermittent paralysis. Some of the letters are virtually mute. Others have bold, black faces. The ribbon is about as fresh and whole as a battle flag in a museum. The mechanism generally is decrepit, and limps heavily through the affairs of state only under the severest presidential goading. Mr. Wilson admits it is far from faultless, but he likes it. and he is very proud of the fact that it has no hyphen.

You couldn't get a typewritten line out of the president on any machine but this one-not even with a dark lantern and a jimmy. White House humorists say he has hand-raised the poor old thing so long he has developed a personal attachment for it. If so, that

For years and years the ancient machine has endured professorial, authorial and presidential pecking. And pecking is right, for Mr. Wilson is a

disciple of the Hunt system, or forefinger hesitation. Wherefore it may be said that this is the only typewriter that ever had the distinction of having hesitated with a president.

The low, rakish form of this ancient, rusty friend of the president reposes in his library. They understand each other's idiosyncrasies and eccentricities and they stand together at any time to battle submarines, blockades of neutral ports or a-a-oh, any darned thing.

Starting Lively Campaign for Trade in China

A N aggressive campaign to obtain for American business a share in the development of the enormous resources of China has been planned by the departments of state and commerce. The plan contemplates the develop-

ment of an American vested interest in China that will insure to the United States a fair share of that country's foreign trade and be powerful enough to take care of itself in the complicated political and commercial situation there.

The scheme was developed by Paul S. Reinsch, minister to China; Julian H. Arnold, commercial attache at Peking, and Dr. Edward E. Pratt, chief of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. Mr. Reinsch

brought to Washington a program framed by himself and Mr. Arnold, which was submitted to Doctor Pratt, Secretary Lansing, and other officials. It was generally indorsed, and the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce has already begun work along the lines suggested. Mr. Arnold will return to the United States this winter and tour the country to secure capital for investment in China.

State department officials have been watching commercial conditions in China since the recent granting of extensive special privileges demanded by Japan. No political steps have been taken to obtain concessions or privileges for Americans, however, and the policy of the government has been steadfastly against commercial politics such as other nations have employed in China. The plan now proposed will, it is expected, develop an American interest there which will be powerful enough to meet the competition of other

Doctor Pratt pointed out that American capital was piling up as a result of the European war, and that vast sums of idle money are available for investment. The bureau expects to take advantage of every opportunity now offered in China and to have an American interest strongly intrenched there at the close of the war.

Work in the desired direction has already been begun by agents of the commerce bureau in the United States, an men are now in China closing contracts for the installation of American machinery in cotton mills built under Chinese government supervision.

White House Social Secretary Must Know a Lot

THE appointement of a new social secretary at the White House has served to direct attention to the important duties of this "official," about whom so little is usually heard and yet who wields a remarkable power in directing the social affairs of the administration.



It is generally acknowledged in Washington that the new social secretary, Miss Edith Benham, a daughter of the late Rear Admiral Benham, has brought to the post qualifications which ought to insure the success of the social regime of the new mistress of the White House. First, the social secretary at the

White House must be a lady born and bred. She must have had experience in Washington society and have learned that it is an unpardonable offense to admit the wife of a United States senator to step in or be seated at a table before the wife of an ambassador. She must know all the rules of precedence down to the dotting of the "i's" and the crossing of the "t's". She must be a woman who will never forget that no one may properly precede an ambassador and his wife except the president of the United States, the

vice president and the members of the cabinet and their wives. Not only must this question of precedence be thoroughly understood by the social secretary in Washington, but she must also know each and every individual in the wealthy resident and unofficial circles. It is necessary for the invitation list maker to know the personal and social standings of all whom her employer may meet or from whom she may receive calls.

The social secretary at the White House has charge of the social mail and the visiting lists. She opens and replies to every formal note, and after conference with the mistress of the White House accepts whatever engagements she thinks should be accepted and sends regrets to those her judgment dictates she should reject. Sometimes it has been said that the White House social secretary stretches her ingenuity a little and manipulates the dates and engagements of the first lady of the land so that she may accept those which are considered especially desirable and turn down the others.

It Is No Wonder That Guard Jones Exploded

THERE is a man who stands guard near the entrance to the grounds at Mount Vernon, and while his name may not be Jones, still again it may be Jones, so Jones it must be until further information. He was attending strictly to his own business one day

DON'T

not long ago, when an Englishman of most pronounced type entered the gate. Mr. Jones is used to having people thrilled as they set foot upon that sacred soil, but this Englishman did not display the least sign of a thrill. He looked at Jones and asked:

"What is there to be seen here, my man?" Now, Mr. Jones is exceedingly dis-

pleased when spoken to in that fashion, and probably showed it in his re-

ply, which was that some of the hedges of boxwood were very ancient. The burly Briten moved on and looked things over in the garden. It wasn't long before he returned to Mr. Jones, and, fixing his stolid gaze upon that warden of the sacred soil, made free to remark: Why, I see Mr. Washington got these box trees from England.

Jones exploded:

Yes, and what's more, he got this whole country from England. Good-